

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 059646
ORIGIN OES-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ACDA-07 ISO-00 L-03 SP-02 ERDA-05
SS-15 PM-04 NSC-05 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 DODE-00
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DRAFTED BY: OES/NET/RD:JACOON
APPROVED BY: OES/NET:LVNOSENZO
EUR/WE:MR. DURKEE
ACDA:MR. VAN DOREN (SUBS)
ERDA:MR. GARRETT
EUR/RPE:MR. SENS
L/OES:MR. BETTAUER (SUBS)
S/P:MR. KAHAN (INFO)
-----181627Z 111285 /56

P 172045Z MAR 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY MADRID PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY
USMISSION EC BRUSSELS PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TECH, ENRG, SP

SUBJECT: GARONA FUEL TRANSFER CASE

REF: STATE 44113; MADRID 1501

1. ACTION ADDRESSEES MAY INFORM APPROPRIATE AUTHORITIES
THAT WE DELIVERED TODAY FOLLOWING LETTER TO WASHINGTON
EC REPRESENTATIVE SPAAK, APPROVING TRANSFER FOR RE-
PROCESSING OF GARONA SPENT FUEL AS AN INTERIM MEASURE
WITHOUT PREJUDICE TO ANY DECISION FORTHCOMING IN CON-
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NECTION WITH OUR NON-PROLIFERATION POLICY REVIEW.

2. TEXT OF LETTER: DEAR MR. SPAAK: ON JANUARY 12,
1977 YOU REQUESTED APPROVAL FOR THE TRANSFER OF EIGHTY-
ONE (81) IRRADIATED FUEL ELEMENTS FROM THE GARONA POWER
REACTOR IN SPAIN TO THE UK FOR EVENTUAL REPROCESSING NOW
SCHEDULED FOR MARCH 1979 BY BNFL AT WINDSCALE.

AS STATED IN MY LETTER OF DECEMBER 30, 1976, TO YOU APPROVING THE TRANSFER FROM SPAIN TO THE UK OF IRRADIATED FUEL ELEMENTS FROM THE J. CABRERA REACTOR FOR REPROCESSING, THE U.S. GOVERNMENT HAS BECOME INCREASINGLY CONCERNED ABOUT THE PROLIFERATION RISKS ASSOCIATED WITH REPROCESSING

AND THE ACCUMULATION OF SEPARATED PLUTONIUM RESULTING THEREFROM. OUR POLICY IN THIS REGARD IS STILL UNDER REVIEW SO THAT WE DO NOT YET HAVE A DEFINITIVE POSITION AS TO THE CONDITIONS UNDER WHICH THE U.S. WOULD APPROVE REQUESTS FOR TRANSFER OF IRRADIATED FUEL FOR REPROCESSING.

HOWEVER, WE RECOGNIZE THE URGENT NEED FOR APPROVAL OF THE TRANSFER REQUESTED IN YOUR JANUARY 12, 1977 LETTER TO AVOID SERIOUS CONSEQUENCES FOR THE OPERATION OF THE REACTOR AS DELINEATED IN THE LETTER OF THE SAME DATE FROM MR. GALLEGO OF THE SPANISH EMBASSY TO MR. HELFRICH. ACCORDINGLY, WE ARE APPROVING THIS TRANSFER OF THE 81 IRRADIATED GARONA FUEL ELEMENTS TO THE UK FOR REPROCESSING ON THE CONDITION THAT PRIOR U.S. APPROVAL WILL BE OBTAINED WITH RESPECT TO FACILITIES IN WHICH ANY SUBSEQUENT ALTERATION, USE OR STORAGE (OTHER THAN STORAGE AT WINDSCALE) OF ANY RESULTING SEPARATED PLUTONIUM MIGHT OCCUR. IN THIS REGARD I NOTE YOUR LETTER OF FEBRUARY 11, 1977, IN WHICH YOU RAISED CERTAIN QUESTIONS ABOUT THE RESTRICTIONS CONTAINED IN MY LETTER OF DECEMBER 30, 1976, APPLYING TO THE DISPOSITION OF RECOVERED PLUTONIUM. THIS MATTER IS UNDER REVIEW AND WE WILL BE RESPONDING TO IT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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BY SEPARATE CORRESPONDENCE.

WE WOULD LIKE TO STRESS THAT THIS APPROVAL IS INTENDED AS AN INTERIM ACCOMMODATION PENDING A FINAL DECISION ON THE OVERALL U.S. POLICY AS TO DISPOSITION OF IRRADIATED FUEL AND IS WITHOUT PREJUDICE TO THAT DECISION. ALSO IN THIS INSTANCE, AS WELL AS IN THE CASE OF THE CABRERA FUEL REPROCESSING APPROVAL, SHOULD FUTURE BROAD CONSULTATIONS LEAD TO INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENT ON NEW FUEL SUPPLY ARRANGEMENTS INCLUDING REPROCESSING OR OTHER DISPOSITION OF IRRADIATED FUEL, WE WOULD EXPECT TO CONSULT WITH THE PARTIES CONCERNED TO CONSIDER WHETHER THESE NEW ARRANGEMENTS SHOULD BE APPLICABLE TO THE FUEL WHICH WE HAVE APPROVED FOR TRANSFER. SIGNED NELSON F. SIEVERING, JR. END TEXT
VANCE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLICIES, NUCLEAR PROLIFERATION, FISSIONABLE MATERIALS TRANSFER, RADIOACTIVE WASTES DISPOSAL, NUCLEAR FUELS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 17-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: OES/NET/RD:JACOON
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
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Expiration:
Film Number: D770093-0681
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From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770348/aaaabpyt.tel
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Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: b8077db6-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
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Original Previous Classification: n/a
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Review Content Flags:
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Subject: GARONA FUEL TRANSFER CASE
TAGS: TECH, ENRG, SP, UK, US, (SIEVERING, NELSON F JR)
To: MADRID LONDON MULTIPLE
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Review Markings:
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